CLAIMS

1. A method for saving a message including a message source signal, said message transmitted to a communication receiver having a plurality of source files, said method comprising the step of storing said message in one of said plurality of source files, said one of said plurality of source files determined by the message source signal.

2. The method of Claim 1, each of said plurality of source files having at least one message storage slot for storing a message, wherein the step of storing said message comprises the step of storing said message in an unoccupied one of said at least one message storage slot.

3. The method of Claim 1 each of said plurality of source files having at least one message storage slot for storing a message, wherein the step of storing said message comprises the step of storing said message in an earliest occupied message storage slot having information stored therein if there are no unoccupied message storage slots in said one of said plurality of source files, thereby overwriting said information.

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of storing said message comprises the step of storing said message in an earliest occupied unprotected message slot.

5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising before the step of storing said message, the steps of:

designating a source signal for each of said plurality of source files; and

allocating to each of said plurality of source files, a predetermined number of message storage slots.

6. The method of Claim 5 wherein the step of storing said message further comprises storing said message in one of said plurality of source files having a source identification signal substantially equivalent to said message source signal.

7. The method of Claim 5 wherein the step of storing said message comprises the step of storing said message in an unoccupied message storage slot.

8. The method of Claim 5 wherein the step of storing said message comprises the step of storing said message in an earliest occupied message storage slot having information stored therein if there are no unoccupied message storage slots in said one of said plurality of source files, thereby overwriting said message.

9. The method of Claim 5 wherein the step of storing said message comprises the step of storing said message in an earliest occupied unprotected message storage slot.

10. The method of Claim 5 wherein the predetermined number of message storage slots for each of said plurality of source files is user selectable.

11. A message storage apparatus for storing information having an information source file indicator, comprising:

memory means comprising a plurality of source files; and

control means for storing said information in a one of said plurality of source files in response to said information source signal.

12. The message storage apparatus of Claim 11 wherein each of said source files within said memory means includes a predetermined number of message storage slots.

13. The message storage apparatus of Claim 11 wherein the control means includes a source file select means for sequentially selecting one of said plurality of source files in response to a priority associated with each of said source files.

14. The message storage apparatus of Claim 12 wherein the predetermined number of message storage slots for each of said source files is a user selectable number.

15. The message storage apparatus of Claim 14 wherein successive activations of a user selectable control sequentially selects one of said plurality of source files in the order:

(a) selecting source files having unread information stored in message storage slots therein in the reverse order of which the unread information was received;

(b) selecting source files having information stored in message storage slots therein and having a predetermined priority level in the reverse order of which the information stored in message storage slots therein was received; and

(c) selecting the remaining source files in the reverse order of which the information stored within the message storage slots in the remaining source files was received.

Claim 14

15 16. The message storage apparatus of Claim 15 14 wherein the predetermined priority level of each of said source files is user selectable.

Claim 16-19

17. A method for selecting a source file from a plurality of source files within a memory comprising the step of selecting the source file in response to a priority associated with the source file.

18. The method of Claim 17 wherein the selecting step comprises varying the priority of each source file in response to a status of a message within the source file.

19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the status indicates whether the message has been read from the memory.

20. The method of Claim 17 wherein the selecting step comprises the steps of:

selecting source files having unread information stored therein in the reverse order of which the unread information was received;

selecting source files having information stored therein and having a predetermined priority level in the reverse order of which the information stored therein was received; and

selecting the remaining source files in the reverse order of which the information stored within the remaining source files was received.

21. The method of Claim 20 wherein the predetermined priority level of each of said source files is user selectable.

22 A selective call receiver comprising:

receiving means for receiving and decoding selective call messages having message source signals;

a plurality of source files, each source file comprising at least one message storage slot for storing each of the selective call messages;

display means for displaying the selective call messages; and

control means comprising:

storage control means for storing each of the selective call messages in one of said message storage slots of one of said plurality of source files, said one of said plurality of source files determined by the message source signal; and

source file selection means for selecting one of said plurality of source files for displaying the selective call messages stored therein by said display means.

23. The selective call receiver of Claim 22 wherein the number of message storage slots for each of said plurality of source files is user selectable.

24. The selective call receiver of Claim 22 wherein the source file selection means sequentially selects one of the plurality of source files in the order:

(a) selecting source files having unread messages stored therein in the reverse order of which the unread messages were received;

(b) selecting source files having messages stored therein and having a predetermined priority level in the reverse order of which the messages stored therein were received; and

(c) selecting the remaining source files in the reverse order of which the messages stored within the remaining source files were received.

25. The selective call receiver of Claim 24 wherein the priority level of each of said source files is user selectable.